

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 NEA-10

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 FTC-01 JUSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 /132 W

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O R 241923Z SEP 75

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 8559

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USDEL MTN GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, OECD

SUBJECT: EC COMMISSION STATEMENT OF CONCERN RE
PETITIONS FOR RELIEF UNDER US TRADE ACT

1. AT CONCLUSION OF TRADE COMMITTEE (SEE SEPTTEL FOR REPORT) EC COMMISSION REP PHAN VAN PHI MADE STATEMENT OF EC CONCERN ABOUT WHAT EC PERCEIVES AS PROLIFERATION OF PRESSURES, COMPLAINTS AND PETITIONS FROM VARIOUS SECTORS OF INDUSTRY AND THE PUBLIC IN THE UNITED STATES WHICH SEEM TO BE CONVERGING IN WAY WHICH IS FEARED WILL DAMAGE TRADE RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND EC AS WELL AS OVERALL ATMOSPHERE. PROLIFERATION OF INITIATIVES, WHICH HE SAID EC UNDERSTANDS HAVE NOT BEEN INITIATED AS RESULT OF US GOVERNMENT POLICY, MAY NEVERTHELESS RESULT IN SERIES OF ACTIONS UNDER ANTI-DUMPING, COUNTERVAILING DUTY, ESCAPE CLAUSE, AND SECTION 301 PROVISIONS OF TRADE ACT. POTENTIALLY MORE THAN ONE-FIFTH OF EC EXPORTS TO US COULD BE AFFECTED, BUT COMMISSION ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT BROADER IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADING SYSTEM, INCLUDING EXAMPLE WHICH US MIGHT SET FOR OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO DEALING WITH INTERNAL PRESSURES TO RESTRAIN IMPORTS. HE NOTED THAT ACTIONS IN THE US HAVE COME ONLY FEW MONTHS AFTER RENEWAL OF OECD TRADE PLEDGE.

2. PHAN VAN PHI SAID COMMISSION UNDERSTOOD SOME OF PRESSURES IN US RELATED TO GENERAL ECONOMIC SLOWDOWN AND UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS, BUT WISHED TO POINT OUT THAT OTHER COUNTRIES ALSO EXPERIENCING THESE SAME PROBLEMS. HE URGED THAT US GOVERNMENT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT "THE GLOBAL BALANCE OF UNDERSTANDINGS" IN DEALING WITH PROTECTIONIST PRESSURES AND TO HANDLE ITS DOMESTIC SITUATIONS AND EDU-
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CATE DOMESTIC OPINION WITH DUE REGARD FOR INTERNATIONAL CONCERNS. PHAN VAN PHI REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT HE WAS IN NO WAY CRITICIZING ACTION OF USG, BUT SIMPLY PUTTING ON RECORD CONCERNS OF EC COMMISSION REGARDING SITUATION DEVELOPING WITHIN THE UNITED STATES. (PHAN VAN PHI'S REMARKS WERE MADE UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AND SUBSUMED INTERVENTION ON AUTO ANTI-DUMPING WHICH MISSION UNDERSTOOD FRG HAD PLANNED TO MAKE.)

3. US REP (SCHMIDT) RESPONDED THAT NO DEFINITIVE

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SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FEA-01 /132 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 8560

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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ACTIONS ON THESE CASES HAD YET BEEN TAKEN, AND STRESSED THAT THEY HAD NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN INITIATED BY US ADMINISTRATION. ALL CASES WERE EITHER UNDER INVESTIGATION OR WERE REQUESTS FOR INVESTIGATION. USG NATURALLY HAD TO ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS LAWS. UNDER US PROCEDURES, ALL INTERESTED PARTIES WOULD HAVE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE KNOWN THEIR VIEWS. THESE WERE PUBLIC PROCEDURES AND, AS A RESULT, THERE WAS INEVITABLE ADDED PRESS ATTENTION WHICH MAY HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO EC'S CONCERN. AS TO IMPLICATION THAT PATTERN OF CONDUCT MIGHT BE INVOLVED, SCHMIDT POINTED OUT THAT INVESTIGATIONS RELATED TO COMPLAINTS OF UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES AND, IN CERTAIN CASES, PETITIONS FOR ESCAPE CLAUSE ACTIONS. SHOULD THESE COMPLAINTS OF UNFAIR PRACTICES EVENTUATE IN ACTIONS, ANY PATTERN ESTABLISHED WOULD BE THAT FACTS ALLEGED HAD BEEN DETERMINED TO BE TRUE.

4. IN BRIEF INTERVENTION, JAPANESE REP ASSOCIATED SELF WITH CONCERN EXPRESSED BY COMMISSION REP. RE PENDING ANTIDUMPING CASES.

5. AFTER MEETING, PHAN VAN PHI TOLD US BILATERALLY THAT HE HAD SOUGHT TO MAKE HIS REMARKS AS UNOFFENSIVE AS HE COULD. HE HAD NO WRITTEN TEXT, BUT SIMILAR STATEMENT WOULD BE MADE BY COMMISSION REP AT GATT COUNCIL ON THURSDAY.
TURNER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, TRADE, TRADE COMPLAINTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: SmithRJ
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975OECDP24770
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750331-0577
From: OECD PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750922/aaaaaszwl
Line Count: 216
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: SmithRJ
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <26 SEP 2003 by SmithRJ>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC COMMISSION STATEMENT OF CONCERN RE PETITIONS FOR RELIEF UNDER US TRADE ACT
TAGS: ETRD, US, OECD, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006